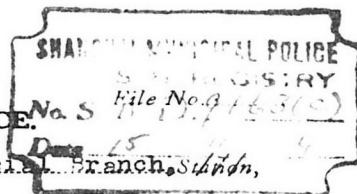


D 9163(c)

1939-40

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE



REPORT

S. 5, Special Branch, S. 5, S. 5

Date Nov. 15, 1940.

Subject: Anti-British propaganda received through mails

Made by D.S.I. Young Forwarded by Supt. Mason

Pamphlets, a specimen of which is attached hereto, have been received through the mails by several police officers.

As will be seen, they emanate from L.K. Kentwell, editor and publisher of the "Voice of New China," a bi-monthly magazine in English and Chinese, published in Nanking.

The contents of the pamphlet are a reproduction in its entirety of an article which appeared on pages 6 and 7 of the issue of the "Voice of New China" dated August 15, 1940.

The pamphlets are contained in envelopes which bear the stamp of the "Retrocession Commissioner, Nanking, China," which is, presumably, the office of committee dealt with under Special Branch Registry File No. S.B.D-9163 (c) dated 28.3.39.



A. C. (Special Branch).

D. S. I.

MEMO.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

OFFICE OF DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
(CRIME BRANCH)

Date

D C Div

Page 2 is rather interesting. I was a member of the Repatriation Staff and was on board all vessels used for this purpose. The lot of the Germans on that occasion was no worse than mine when I travelled home on the aft poop of a P&O lat at the end of 1919.



FM. 1

Memorandum.

Pootoo Road POLICE FORCE,
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Shanghai, 14 November, 1940
To D.C. Special Branch.

Sir,

Herewith a letter received
by the undersigned on 14-11-40 from
Retrocession Commissioner, Nanking,
China, which is forwarded for
information.


Inspector in charge

"VOICE OF NEW CHINA"

A Bi-Lingual Fortnightly
Successor to "CHINA OUTLOOK"
Shanghai Agents
Chinese Commercial Publishing House
Suite 304-306, LIZA Building, Cr. Nanking and Szechuen Roads
SHANGHAI

Telephone 31888

L. K. KENTWELL, B.A., (Oxon),
LL.B., Columbia Uni., N.Y.
Editor & Publisher

8, Drum Tower Villa,

Nanking Nov. 11, 1940

The official announcement by the British War Office of their decision to withdraw British troops from Shanghai, Tientsin and Peking, in accordance with the request of China and Japan was received with great shock by Britons of "pure" European descent in China on August 9. No less than a mild panic was created when the decision became known. Telegrams were exchanged between the British communities in the three cities. The military headquarters and consulates in the cities were swamped with telephone messages and personal calls.

Sudden Dismay

What was the cause for all this sudden dismay among Englishmen of "pure" European descent in China? Had the endless merry-go-round of mutual hatred and suspicion come to a head? Did the possibilities of a clash between Japan and Britain appear dangerously closer? What was the meaning of the term, the British soldiers were being recalled "for service elsewhere?" Some 2,000 were not going for war service, to be sure. As it is generally considered that Hongkong is already lost, the addition of two regiments for the defence of Hongkong means nothing. Perhaps they were to be stuck in Singapore to add to the defences there?

No, these matters did not greatly concern the minds of the businessmen. They were the cares of the military authorities. What now appears certain is that England's grip on China is slowly losing its hold and no longer is it possible to subjugate China. What loomed more important was the ever-growing possibility of war between Japan and Britain.

Seeds of Hatred

That was what the average Briton in China and Japan is more deeply concerned about unless there are some drastic changes in Far Eastern policy. The seeds of hatred sown by England in the Far East are not turning out to be the boon for Britain as was thought. Their arrogance, their subjugation and cruelty in both business and human methods are generally responsible for the intolerable poorness of the Chinese people and the Far East has been challenged too long by England in the extension of her ambitions.

Important Issues

To be frank, Britons are now concerned about annihilation of the concessions and their business. While the press raves about what it calls "important issues" such as "who will take over the British Defence Sector, the British Concession in Tientsin, the British Legation in Peking," these are only newspaper topics. That China is going to demand and re-enforce these demands, that all foreign concessions be returned to the sovereignty of China when the actual time comes, is a foregone conclusion.

While, from a military standpoint, the withdrawal of a mere 2,000 British "Tommies" (taught that they can lick five Japanese or Chinese with one hand behind their backs) is a perfectly right move and perhaps appeases China. Some Britons see in it a hardening gesture by England and an unmistakable sign that England is preparing to turn more pressure on Japan, which might lead to war.

China and Japan Against England

A new question has arisen in the minds of the British and that is, "Will China, under the Wang Ching-wei Government join Japan in the event of war?" Our answer is that since Japan will be fighting for the freedom of China from foreign oppression, it is almost certain that New China will take up arms against Britain, although Nanking has given no hints on this matter. It is however a known fact that China has a deep hatred against England and will go to all ends to attain the final goal of the people.

If war breaks out, the Britishers of "pure" European descent will in all probability be interned in such places as Shanghai and Tientsin, and this will include the Britishers of "pure" European descent of the Shanghai Municipal Police. All British business will then be taken over by the Chinese government, including shipping and banking and the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation will be no exception. The same situation, will, in all probability take place in Japan.

Deportation of Britishers of "Pure" European descent

Or, it might happen, as it did during the last World War when China was tricked into joining on the side of the Allies and when German nationals, old men, women and children were arrested in Shanghai by the Shanghai Municipal Police and deported to Germany. That the Britishers might be deported—but not, let us hope, in filthy cattle boats in which the Germans were forced to travel. Should it be decided to deport all Britishers of "pure" European descent from Chinese soil, however, it might not be unjustified to give them a taste of the shocking cruelty accorded the German victims during the last war when they were made to suffer incredible horrors mainly from the Shanghai Municipal Police and the British Municipal Police at Tientsin.

Germans Illtreated

The transportation of Germans from China during the last war is one of the edifying spectacles and a model of inhumanity. Thrown into the cattle-boats, the Germans were not treated as prisoners of war, but as animals about to be slaughtered. The obnoxious smell, lack of sleeping accommodation, food and water, as well as being continuously threatened by guards, had most of the victims vomiting with sickness. Disease soon spread down in the ship's holds and many died. The story of the voyage was later reported in all newspapers throughout the world as a mistake of the Shanghai Municipal Council. Actually it was the insane work of the British Police, who in reply to the criticism of the Chinese people at the time, said that "anything was good enough for the swine." The issue was ugly and unnecessary and was said so by the Chinese press at the time.

Voyage of Slaves

Since the position is now reversed and the probability of Britishers of "pure" European descent being deported in not too remote a date, it might be well for all of them in China to consider carefully this matter. There is no denying the fact that the German deportation was a tragedy, for the repercussions were heard for years after. We believe that even the Germans who were victims of the tragedy (and there are some in China today who made the trip) hope that the English brutes will enjoy better passage than this. It is enough, however, to again place on record that *the Chinese were not responsible for this "voyage of slaves."*

F. 207a
K. 500-2-31

Ref. No.

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL Form A
S - RECEIPT
No. S. B. D. 91634
Date 28 3 1939

Headquarters,

Shanghai Municipal Police,

March 28, 1939.

SUBJECT

Meeting of the Legislative Yuan of the Reformed Government -
retrocession of Foreign Settlements contemplated

The Commissioner presents his compliments to The Secretary, S.M.C.
and begs to forward herewith the following documents relative to the
subject referred to above

1. Copy of a Police report.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

FILE

R 293

G. 908 1-39
HSM

SECRET

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

Section 1, Special
REPORT

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
REGISTRY
No. S. B. D. 9163 (C)
Branch Station
Date March 25, 1939.

Subject. Meeting of the Legislative Yuan of the Reformed Government -
retrocession of Foreign Settlements contemplated - measures adopted.

Made by D. L. Pan Lien-pih

Forwarded by

C. G. Gao

20, 4/11/44
D. I.

Information has been obtained that in the middle of March, 1939, some 10 members of the Legislative Yuan of the Reformed Government in Nanking convened a meeting for deliberations on the retrocession of the administrative authority of the Foreign Settlements at Shanghai. Mr. Woo Zung Yui (伍澄宇), member of the Legislative Yuan, presided over the meeting, and it was resolved that if and when circumstances permit, the following measures for the retrocession and the boycott of the Foreign Settlements at Shanghai be put into effect:-

Measures for the retrocession

- (1) An Autonomous System for the Administration of the Special District Areas of the Shanghai Municipality shall be formulated and drafted by the Reformed Government, whereby a Municipal Assembly will be created. The Municipal Assembly shall be jointly organized and established by a number of city counsellors who shall be nominated by local Foreign residents and organizations of various Foreign nations together with the various local Chinese business organizations. The Municipal Assembly shall be the proper legislative authority in the Shanghai Special District Areas, from which Municipal Administration for the Special District Areas at Shanghai shall derive its authority.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

REPORT

Station,

Date 19

- 2 -

Subject

Made by

Forwarded by

- (2) At the first Session of the Municipal Assembly, the Government shall, as a matter of expediency and with due regard to the peculiar local conditions, arbitrarily select and appoint a certain number of Chinese city counsellors to the Municipal Assembly from amongst the various local Chinese business associations, while the local Consuls of the various Foreign nations shall be served with a notification requesting them to elect and appoint within a specific period, a certain number of city counsellors as foreign members of the Municipal Assembly at its first Session. Failure to comply with this request shall be regarded as forfeiture of the right to attend the session of the Municipal Assembly.
- (3) The Authorities of the Foreign Settlements shall be duly informed of this system and the procedure whereby they shall be duly carried out as provided in Items (1) and (2) and they shall be notified at the same time of the reasons for the proposed retrocession of the Administration of the Foreign Settlements. Should the local Foreign Consuls consider these measures as reasonable and concur with them, negotiations will then commence for the taking over of the municipal councils.
- Measures for the boycotting of the Foreign Settlements

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

REPORT
- 3 -

..... Station,

Date.....19

Subject.....

Made by.....Forwarded by.....

- (4) Refusal on the part of the Foreign Consuls to give up the administration of the Foreign Settlements shall be regarded as tantamount to a deliberate obstruction and encroachment on the national territory of this country and will therefore be sufficient grounds for action aiming at the boycott of the Foreign Settlements.
- (5) When these measures are put into force, the Foreign Settlements at Shanghai will be excommunicated with the inland areas, and a state of affairs will be brought about which will be reminiscent of the year 1925, when Hongkong was suffering from the effects of similar measures which were carried out by Canton. It is not to be expected, however, that the Foreign Settlements at Shanghai will be able to recover from this siege quite as easily as Hongkong did, because, it must be remembered that throughout the "Big Strike" in the year 1925, Hongkong maintained uninterrupted communications by sea, whereas the Foreign Settlements at Shanghai will be completely at our mercy once they are subjected to a blockade.

At the outset Woo Zung Yui, the Chairman, proceeded to elucidate the reasons and the motives for the retrocession of the Foreign Settlements at Shanghai, stating that it is indeed a matter of serious concern

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

REPORT

.....Station,

Date.....19

- 4 -

Subject.....

Made by.....Forwarded by.....

for the Reformed Government which is at present the ruling authority of the Central China Area of the Republic of China that it should be constantly slighted, held in scorn, and viewed with contempt by the Authorities of the Foreign Settlements at Shanghai. It should be borne in mind that the organization of the Reformed Government was based entirely and strictly on legal principles and in adhering firmly to its declarations with regard to the conduct of foreign affairs has never slighted or failed to respect its obligations under the Treaties now in force. The fact should not be lost sight of that the acquiescence and connivance by the Authorities of the Foreign Settlements always has had the effect of encouraging those elements who are definitely hostile to the Reformed Government in their ruthless efforts of terror and the endangering of the lives of our people, with the result that the Foreign Settlements have been turned into a place of dreadful horror. In the light of what has been said, there is sufficient legal grounds for negotiations to commence with the authorities concerned towards the retrocession of the Foreign Settlements which will not be incompatible with the provisions in Treaties contracted under International Law.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.....

REPORT

- 5 -

.....Station,

Date.....19

Subject.....

Made by.....Forwarded by.....

Mr. Woo Zung Yui continued with his views and stressed two points relative to and in support of his contention:-

- (1) The Reformed Government being the de facto Government now in power in this country, is naturally the logical and legitimate party to enter into any negotiations which take place on any affairs of a national or international character. The history of international affairs has produced an abundance of precedents in such situations, and negotiations have brought satisfactory conclusions. With regard to the Reformed Government, the Authorities in the Foreign Settlements have never recognised us and are not at all likely to follow the precedent of entering into negotiations with a de facto regime set up under International Law; therefore, it follows that the Authorities of the Foreign Settlements have thereby already lost or virtually given up their administrative authority in those areas under their jurisdiction, which was vested in them by virtue of the Treaties contracted under the provisions of International Law. Furthermore, since the Reformed Government which rules over the areas in Central China wherein the Foreign Settlements at Shanghai are situated, has not yet been accorded recognition

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.....

REPORT

.....Station,

Date.....19

- 6 -

Subject.....

Made by.....

Forwarded by.....

by those nations having control over these Foreign Settlements, it is therefore obvious that the Foreign Settlements themselves have, ceased to exist legally.

- (2) It should be remembered first and foremost that the primary reason for the establishment of Foreign Settlements was the safety and protection of the areas in which foreign nationals coming to this country desired to reside and conduct trade. In view of the disturbed and uncertain conditions in the interior where protection was considered inadequate it is now unsuitable for foreign residence and transaction of trade. In other words, the Foreign Settlements were created to be something in the nature of "special districts" wherein alien subjects could take up residence and trade in safety without concern for their personal security. It follows then that the maintenance of peace and order is the fundamental and vital factor for the creation and continued existence of the Foreign Settlements. This having been clarified, it is plain now that there is no grounds on which the Foreign Settlements should be allowed to exist, inasmuch as during recent years the Authorities of the Foreign Settlements have clearly shown themselves incapable of maintaining peace and order in the

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

REPORT

Station,

Date.....19

- 7 -

Subject.....

Made by.....Forwarded by.....

areas over which they have jurisdiction.

Mr. Woo Zung Yui, alias Woo Ping Yat (伍平一), alias Woo Tsung Lur (伍春雷) is an ex-Chinese lawyer of this city, who was connected with the agitation for a general reduction of rental some time ago and was recently reported in the local Chinese press to have been assassinated in Chekiang, which story has been found to be incorrect.

He was struck off the list in the Bar Association in March 1939, by order of the Ministry of Justice of the National Government (Vide Special Branch report dated March 13, 1939.)

Pan Lien-pih
D. I.

P.C. (Special Branch)

932.
P.A. to D.C. (Sp. B.)
26/5